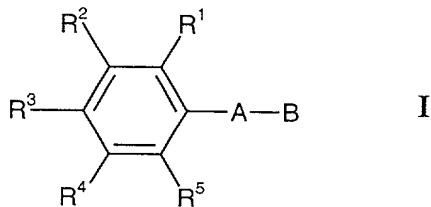


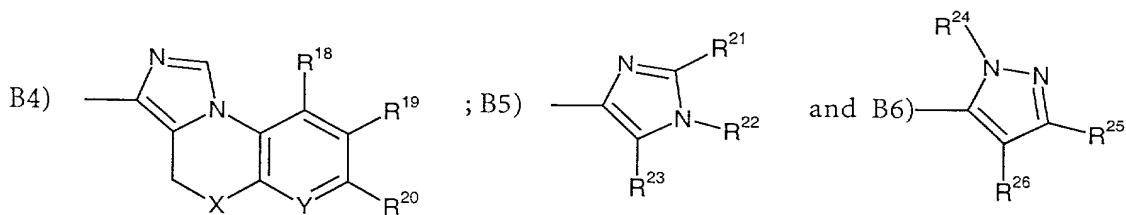
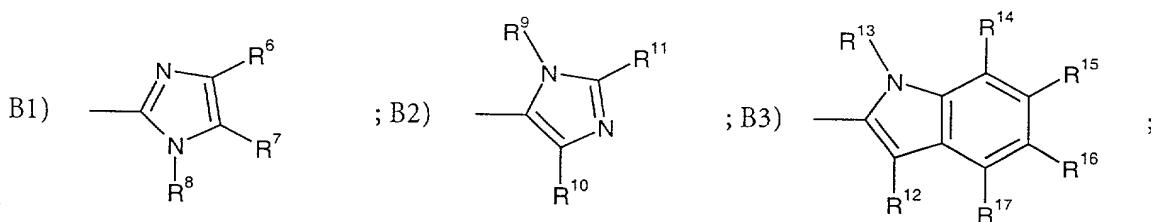
CLAIMS

1. A method of treating a disease responsive to modulation of the mGluR5a receptors comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl or heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl; R, R' and R" are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH- and -C≡C-; and
B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituents selected from hydroxy and halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl or nitro;

R²⁴, R²⁵ and R²⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

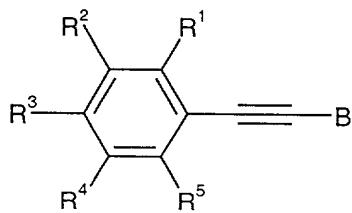
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -O- and -S-; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of -CH= and -N=;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

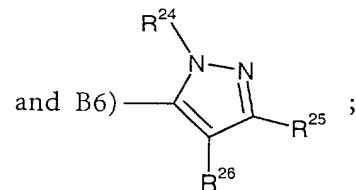
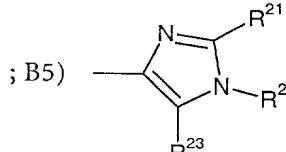
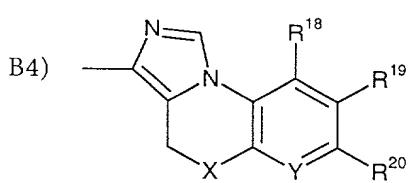
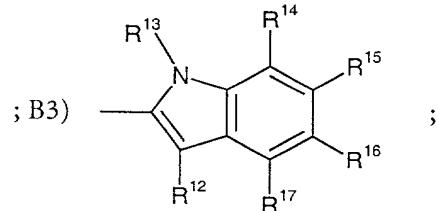
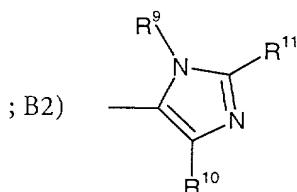
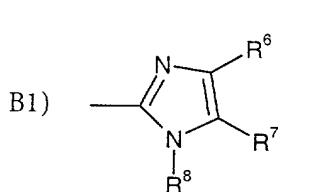
2. A method of treating a disease responsive to modulation of the mGluR5a receptors comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula



I-A

wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R, R' and R" are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen or lower alkyl; and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

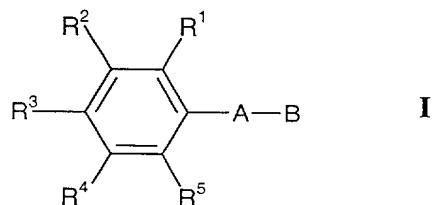
R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R^{10} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;
 R^{11} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;
 R^{12} is $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl;
 R^{13} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;
 R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen or lower alkoxy;
 R^{18} , R^{19} and R^{20} are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen and lower alkoxy;
 R^{21} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;
 R^{22} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;
 R^{23} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;
 R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;
 n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;
 X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and
 Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ and $-N=$;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

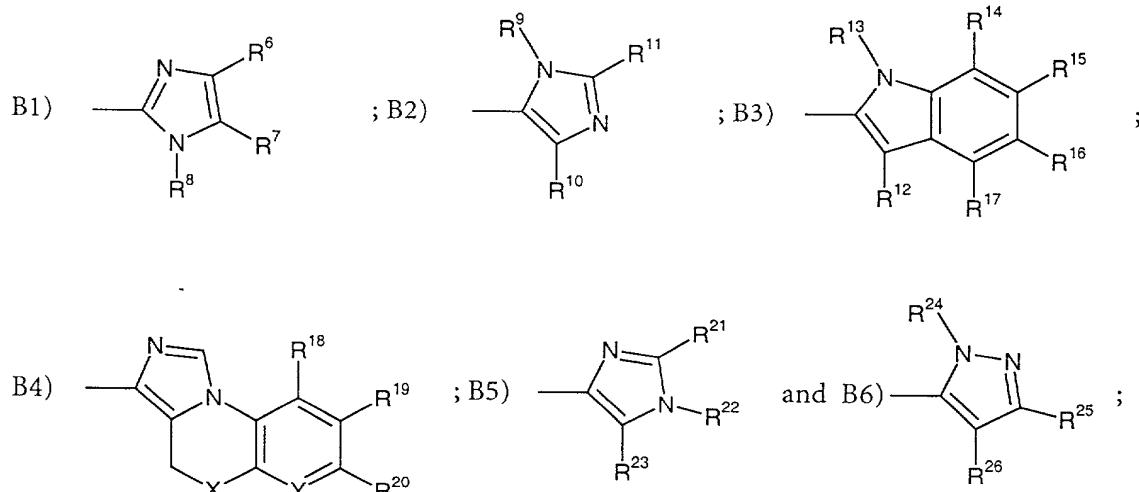
3. A method of treating pain comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R, R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH- and -C≡C-; and
B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR'' and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

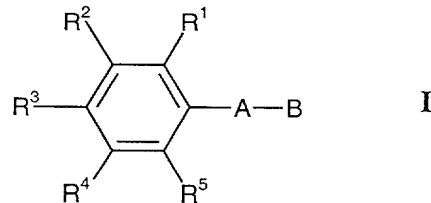
R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;
R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;
R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;
R²⁴, R²⁵ and R²⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;
X selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -O- and -S-; and
Y is selected from the group consisting of -CH= and -N=;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

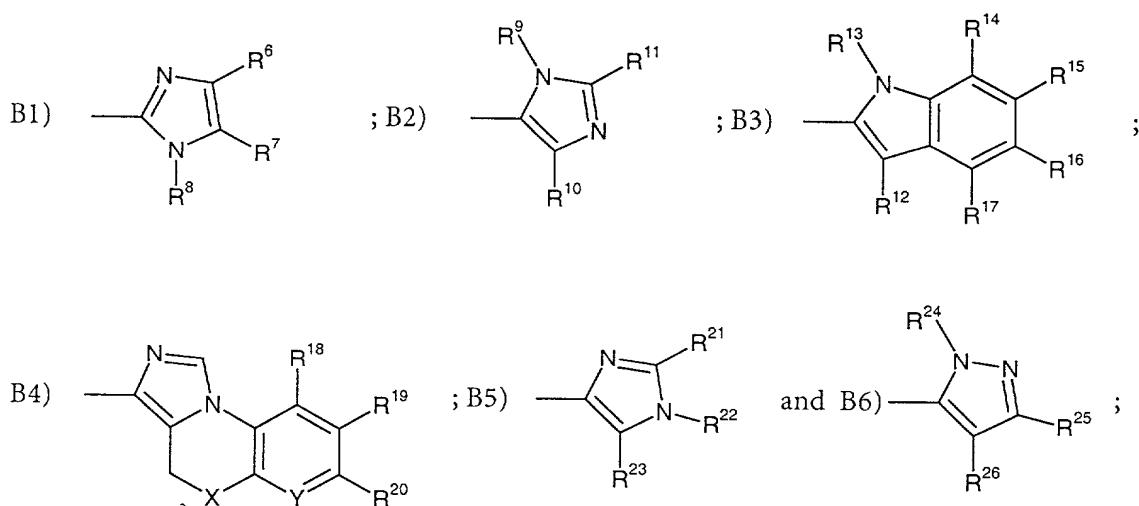
4. A method of treating anxiety or depression comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R, R' and R" are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

A is selected from the group consisting of -CH=CH- and -C≡C-; and
B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

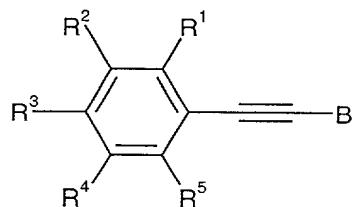
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ and $-N=$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A method of treating pain comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula

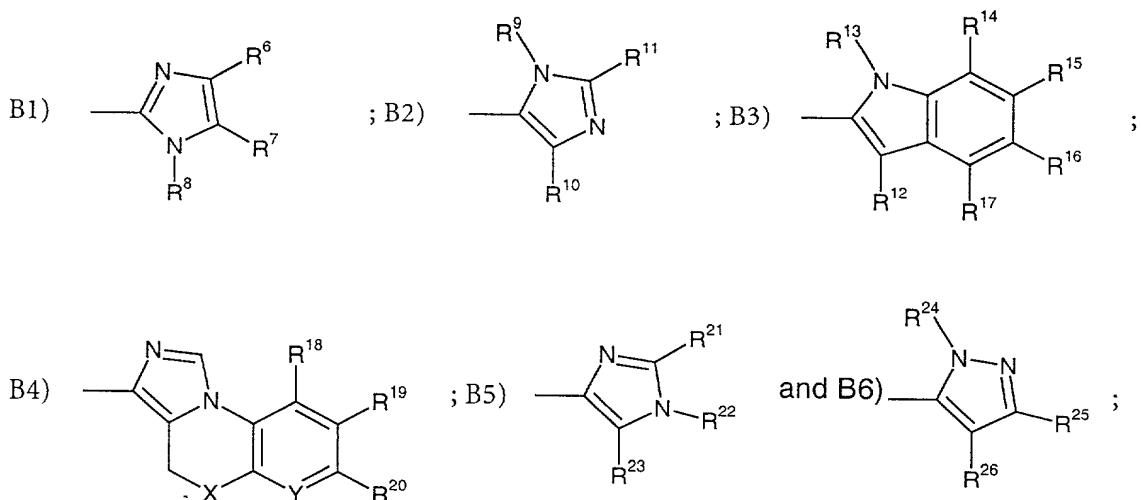


I-A

,

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ - $NR'R''$, $-(CH_2)_n$ - $N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl; and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro or unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl or nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

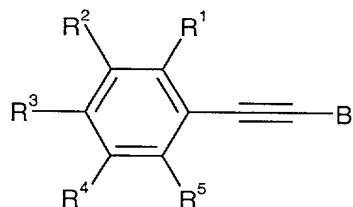
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ and $-N=$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A method of treating anxiety or depression comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula

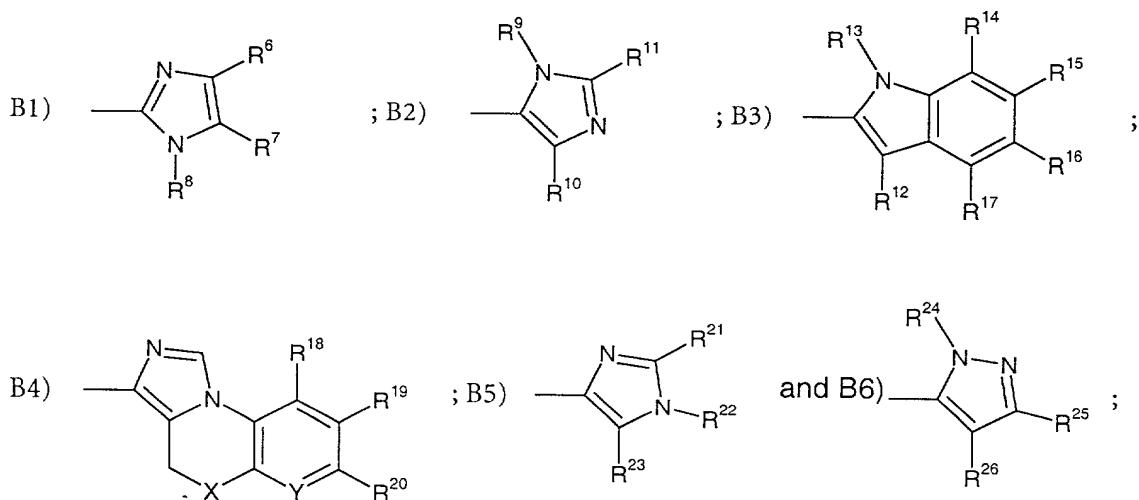


I-A

,

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ - $NR'R''$, $-(CH_2)_n$ - $N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl; and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro or unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl or nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

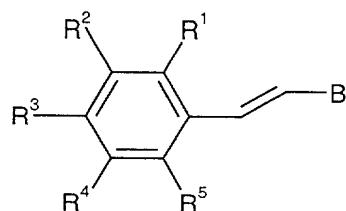
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ and $-N=$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

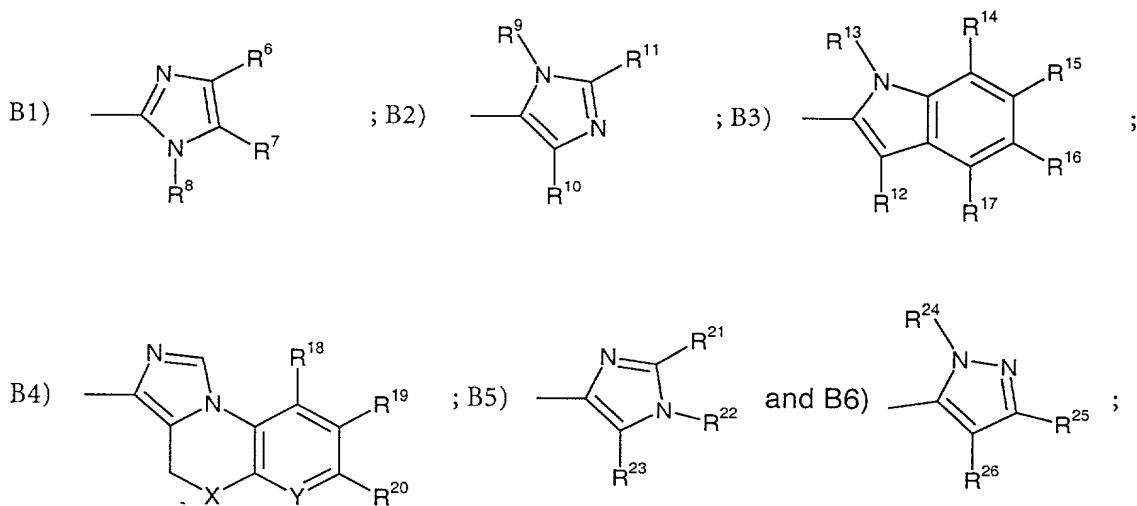
7. A method of treating a disease in a person responsive to modulation of the mGluR5a receptors comprising administering to the person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the compound of formula



I-B

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -NRR', $-(CH_2)_n$ -N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl residues;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, and unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from hydroxy and halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

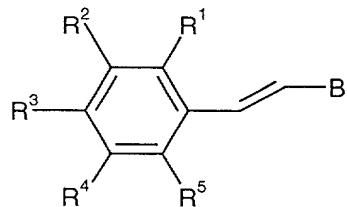
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ and $-N=$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

8. A method of treating pain comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula

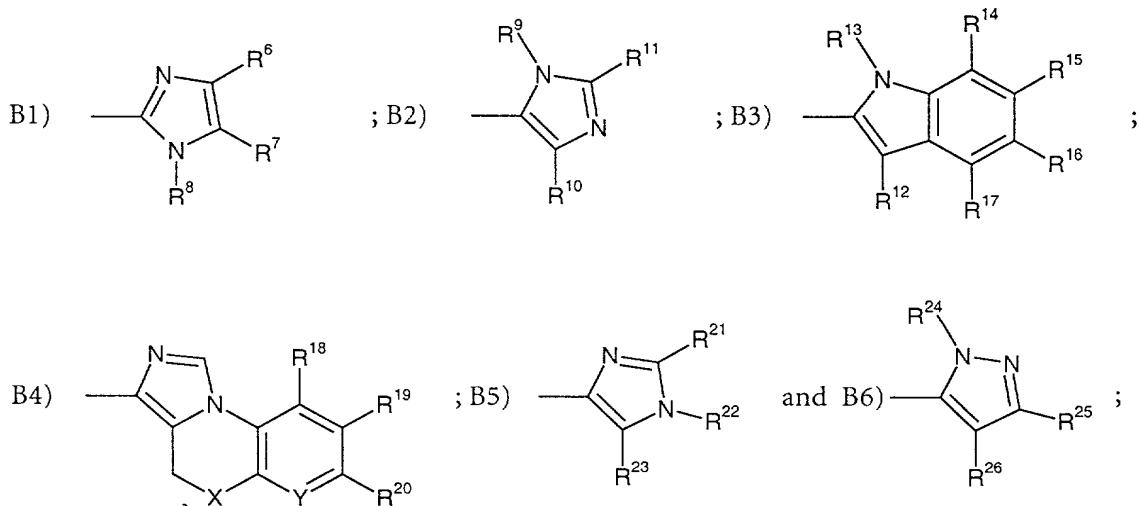


I-B

,

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

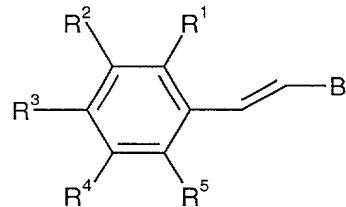
n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ or $-N=$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

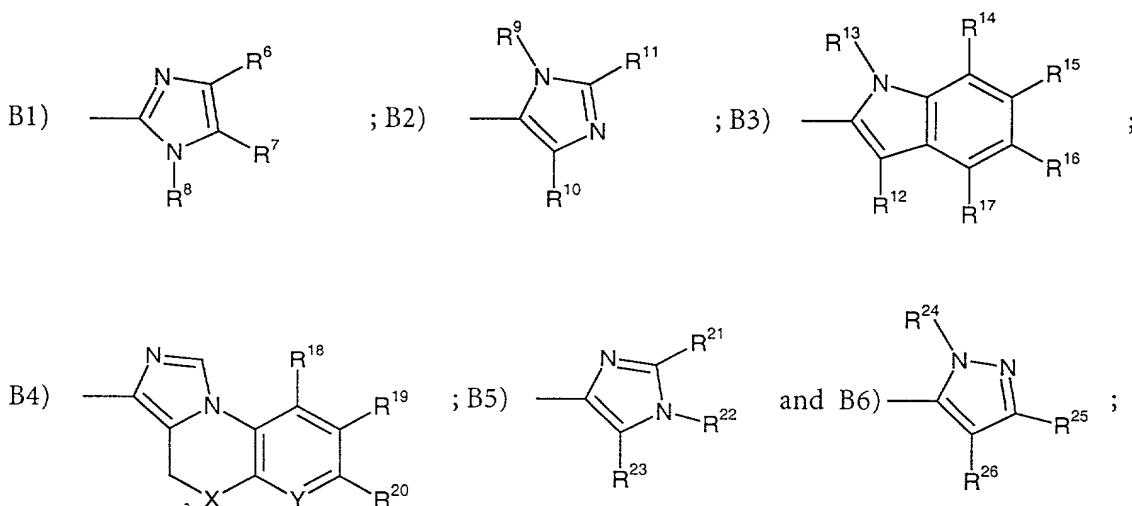
9. A method of treating anxiety or depression comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



I-B

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl and B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroarylsubstituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of, hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl carrying at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;

R^{24} , R^{25} and R^{26} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-$, $-O-$ and $-S-$; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of $-CH=$ or $-N=$;

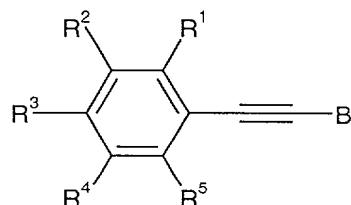
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in a racemic or optically active form and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

11. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula 1A or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

12. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula 1B or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

13. A compound of formula



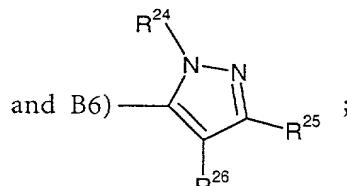
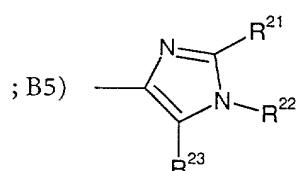
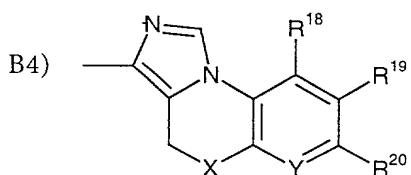
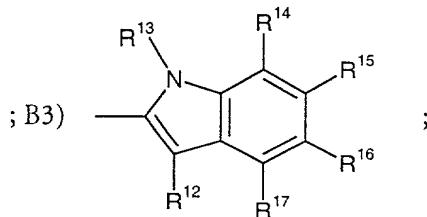
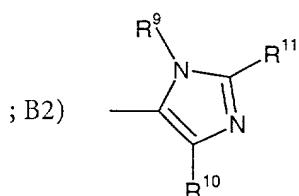
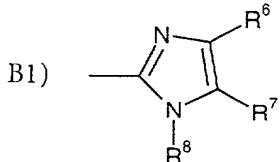
I-A

wherein

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)-$ lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by one or more lower alkyl;

R, R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

B is selected from the group consisting of



wherein

R⁶ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and halogen;

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

R¹² is (CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl;

R¹³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen or lower alkoxy;

R¹⁸, R¹⁹ and R²⁰ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen and lower alkoxy;

R²¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R²² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl and lower alkyl substituted by at least one substituent selected from hydroxy or halogen;

R²³ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkanoyl and nitro;

R²⁴, R²⁵ and R²⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X is selected from the group consisting of -CH₂-, -O- and -S-; and

Y is selected from the group consisting of -CH= and -N=;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

with the exception of

1-methyl-2-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole,

1-methyl-2-(4-methoxy-phenylethynyl)-1H-imidazole,

1-methyl-5-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole, and

1-methyl-4-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole.

14. A compound according to claim 13, wherein B signifies B1.

15. A compound according to claim 14, wherein R⁷ signifies -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR' or unsubstituted heteroaryl or heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl.

16. A compound selected from the group consisting of

3,5-dimethyl-2-phenylethynyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

5-methyl-2-phenylethynyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

2-(3-methoxy-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

2-(2,6-dichloro-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

5-methyl-1-phenyl-2-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

3,5-dimethyl-2-m-tolyethynyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

2-(3-acetylamo-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

2-[3-(2,5-dimethyl-pyrrol-1-yl)-phenylethynyl]-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,

5-(3,5-dimethyl-2-phenylethynyl-3H-imidazol-4-yl)-3-methyl-[1,2,4]oxadiazole,
3-cyclopropyl-5-(3,5-dimethyl-2-phenylethynyl-3H-imidazol-4-yl)-[1,2,4]oxadiazole,
2-(4-chloro-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
2-(4-fluoro-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
2-biphenyl-4-ylethynyl-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester,
2-(2-fluoro-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester, and
2-(4-amino-phenylethynyl)-3,5-dimethyl-3H-imidazole-4-carboxylic acid ethyl ester.

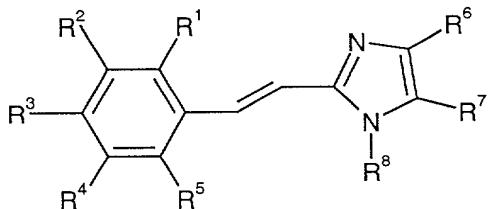
17. A compound selected from the group consisting of
2-(5-nitro-2-phenylethynyl-imidazol-1-yl)-ethanol,
2-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole,
2-(2-fluoro-phenylethynyl)-1-methyl-1H-imidazole,
2-(2-chloro-phenylethynyl)-1-methyl-1H-imidazole and
(4,5-dichloro-2-phenylethynyl-imidazol-1-yl)-acetic acid ethyl ester.

18. A compound, N-[2-(5-methoxy-2-phenylethynyl-1H-indol-3-yl)-ethyl]-acetamide.

19. A compound selected from the group consisting of
3-phenylethynyl-4H-5-thia-2,6,9b-triaza-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene and
3-phenylethynyl-4H-5-oxa-2,9b-diaza-cyclopenta[a]naphthalene.

20. A compound selected from the group consisting of
1-chloro-3-(2-methyl-5-nitro-4-phenylethynyl-imidazol-1-yl)-propan-2-ol,
3-methyl-5-phenylethynyl-3H-imidazole-4-carbaldehyde,
4-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole and
1,2-dimethyl-5-nitro-4-phenylethynyl-1H-imidazole.

21. A compound of formula



I-B-1

wherein

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n$ -NRR', $-(CH_2)_n$ -N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl or unsubstituted heteroaryl, heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl;

R , R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

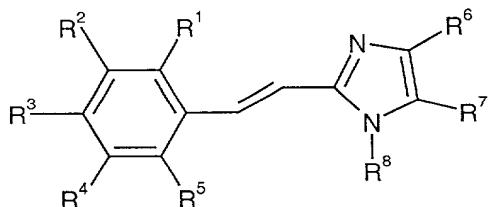
R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -C(O)OR and halogen;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl; and

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -OH, $-(CH_2)_n$ -C(O)OR" or aryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. A method of treating pain comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a compound of formula



I-B-1

wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)$ -lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl;

R, R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

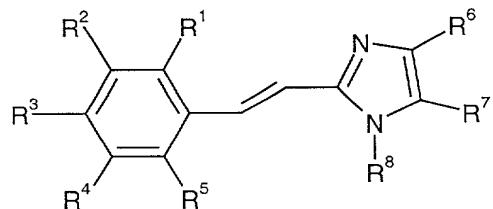
R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)OR$ and halogen;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)OR'$, halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl; and

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n-OH$, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)OR''$ and aryl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. A method of treating anxiety or depression comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a compound of formula



I-B-1

wherein

R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n$ -halogen, lower alkoxy, $-(CH_2)_n-NRR'$, $-(CH_2)_n-N(R)-C(O)$ -lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl;

R, R' and R'' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, $-(CH_2)_n-C(O)OR$ and halogen;

R⁷ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR', halogen, nitro, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by lower alkyl or cycloalkyl; and

R⁸ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-OH, -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR" and aryl;

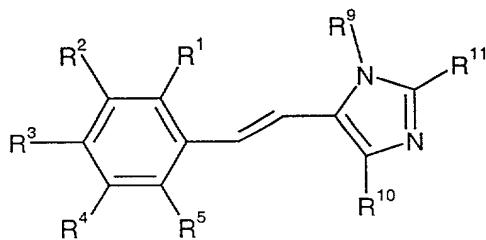
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula 1B-1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

25. A compound according to claim 21, wherein R⁷ signifies lower alkyl or -(CH₂)_n-C(O)OR'.

26. A compound selected from the group consisting of 4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-2-styryl-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(4-chloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(4-butoxy-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 4,5-diisopropyl-2-[2-(4-methoxy-2,3,6-trimethyl-phenyl)-vinyl]-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 4,5-diisopropyl-2-[2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-vinyl]-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(4-chloro-3-fluoro-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(4-ethoxy-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole, 4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-2-[2-(2,3,4-trimethoxy-phenyl)-vinyl]-1H-imidazole, 2-[2-(2,4-dichloro-phenyl)-vinyl]-4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-1H-imidazole and 4,5-diisopropyl-1-methyl-2-(2-p-tolyl-vinyl)-1H-imidazole.

27. A compound of formula



I-B-2

wherein

R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl;

R and R' are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and lower alkyl;

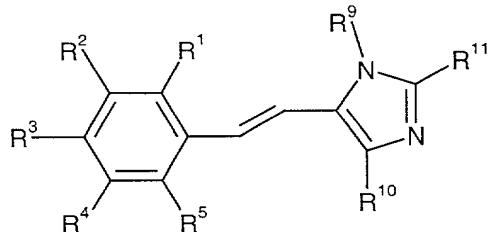
R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is halogen; and

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and alkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

28. A method of treating pain comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



I-B-2

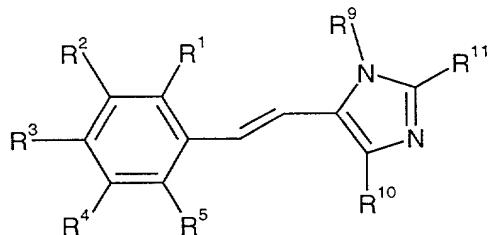
wherein

R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl residues;

R and R' are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;
R¹⁰ is halogen; and
R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or alkyl;
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. A method of treating anxiety or depression comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula



I-B-2

wherein

R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, lower alkyl, -(CH₂)_n-halogen, lower alkoxy, -(CH₂)_n-NRR', -(CH₂)_n-N(R)-C(O)-lower alkyl, aryl, unsubstituted heteroaryl and heteroaryl substituted by at least one lower alkyl residues;

R and R' are selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or lower alkyl;

R⁹ is lower alkyl;

R¹⁰ is halogen; and

R¹¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen or alkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula 1B-2 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically inert carrier.

31. A compound, 4-bromo-1-methyl-5-styryl-1H-imidazole.